

MICHIGAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION & TREATMENT BOARD

Child & Family Services / Michigan Family Independence Agency

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**MICHIGAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND
TREATMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

June 15, 2000

Otsego Club

Alpine Room

Gaylord, MI

***** APPROVED – September 13, 2000 *****

Attendance:

James A. Fink, Chair

Ferne Farber, DV Board

The Honorable Richard Halloran, DV Board

Michelle Hayes, DV Board

Debi Cain, Executive Director

Patsy Baker, DV Staff

Celest Colton, DV Staff

Sandy Cory, DV Staff

Carol Hackett Garagiola, DV Staff

Penny Hackett-Evans, DV Staff

Sarah Heuser, DV Staff

Julie Lyons, DV Staff

Anna Melbin, DV Student Intern

Joyce Wright, DV Staff

Absent:

Shirley Mann Gray, DV Board

Catherine Lucas, DV Board

The Honorable Edward Sosnick, DV Board

Guests:

Kathy Hagenian, MI Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Larry Hermen, Centerboard Associates

Mary Keefe, MI Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Gwyn VanDevender, Thumb Area Assault Crisis Center

I. Meeting called to order at 12:30 pm. Introductions were made around the room.

II. Board Consent

A. Approval of Agenda: F. Farber moved to approve the agenda. M. Hayes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. Approval of Minutes: F. Farber moved to approve the MDVPTB meeting minutes of May 10, 2000. Seconded by M. Hayes. Motion carried.

C. Approval of Ends Statements: F. Farber moved to approve the MDVPTB Ends Statements as written. Seconded by M. Hayes. Motion carried.

III. General Reports:

A. Chair's Report: J. Fink reported that he and D. Cain were able to attend the Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence Apple Blossom Award Dinner. The coalition held their annual conference along with the Women of Color Institute conference this week at the Treetops Resort, Gaylord, MI. The award's dinner was well attended and a huge success.

Women's Center, Marquette: J. Fink reported that S. Kensington of the Women's Center in Marquette has conveyed that they have resolved their issues on a positive note with the chief of police.

B. Executive Director's Report:

Tethering Project: D. Cain presented an update on the tethering project.

C. Sutherland (researcher) will be following up with women whose partners have been tethered. She is getting ready to begin that process and will have feedback in a few months.

Oakland County's most recent report indicated that they have eight individuals who are under tether, two with tethers pending. B. Hankey from Oakland County indicated in her report that the Pontiac District Court has been averaging 27 domestic violence cases per month, of that only 7% are cases actually appropriate to be considered for tethering as an option. This information brings to light on which kind of cases tethering would work and which ones it does not. B. Hankey reported to D. Cain that after hearing from the survivors of those for whom tethering has been appropriate this has really been a positive option.

M. Hayes spoke on the status of Otsego County's tethering program. The county has tethered their first individual. The prosecuting attorney's office expressed the individual's concern about two of the hot zone locations. A court date has been established to revisit the hot zone issue in this case. Two more cases are being considered for potential tethering.

M. Hayes reported that domestic violence awareness in Otsego County is marketed through a radio spot, flyers, and public display of domestic violence hotline numbers. There is a request from Otsego County for possible training of 911 operators.

An August meeting has been scheduled with Otsego and Oakland counties to process the data and information to date with a report back to the board in the fall. Further issues of concern include the option of tethering in lieu of jail - which would be more appropriate?

R. Halloran expressed his concern over Wayne County's involvement in the tethering program. Judges in Wayne County are very concerned about the effectiveness of tethering versus jail time. Discussion ensued.

State Hotline: A June 13, 2000 memo to Knud Hansen (Manager of FIA Adult Protective Services and Purchased Care Division) was distributed. D. Cain gave clarification on the domestic violence/sexual assault statewide hotline numbers.

It was recommended that:

1. The contract currently with Gateway be terminated at the end of the contract period September 30, 2000.
2. Phone service be replaced by the National Hotlines.
3. Retain the statewide hotline number for two – five years to ensure accessibility to clients and allow time to monitor the National Hotlines.

Gateway has received approximately 5,000 calls a year for the entire State of Michigan as compared to our own domestic violence programs that received crisis information and referral calls amounting to 130,000 - 140,000 calls across Michigan. It is anticipated that this move would ensure quality of service to our clients as well as save money.

The Caring House, Inc., Iron Mountain: D. Cain shared her recent conversation with The Caring House. A crisis line worker at the shelter had received a call regarding a possible child abduction and sexual assault. Because of the commitment of this worker, all possible law enforcement steps were taken. It is at D. Cain's recommendation that a letter of commendation be sent out on behalf of the board to this worker for her stellar job.

It was also recommended that, when the situation occurs, letters of commendation be sent to individual domestic violence workers throughout the state in appreciation for their effort. D. Cain will pursue a format for programs to advise the MDVPTB of future opportunities for letters of acknowledgement.

The board gave their go-ahead for J. Fink to send a letter of commendation to the worker at The Caring House. L. Hermen expressed his observance that the board's action on this issue funnels through their use of the Ends Statements.

C. Other Reports:

Full-Faith and Credit: C. Hackett Garagiola spoke on her recent attendance, along with R. Halloran, at the National Center for State Courts and the National Criminal Justice Association conference in Indiana. Issues focused on going forward with proposals for state enabling legislation, protocols for law enforcement and for courts, jurisdictional problems the tribes do not have criminal jurisdiction over, and how to give full-faith and credit to state PPOs that are violated on tribal property.

It was reported that Michigan is not currently participating in the National Client Information Center (NCIC), FBI protection order file. Twenty-nine states are. The NCIC would be of extraordinary assistance in validating law enforcement orders from tribes or from other states. Work is currently underway by the Michigan State Police to add Michigan to the NCIC.

IV. Review of Board Governing Policy:

A. Board Code of Conduct: J. Fink led the discussion on the Board Code of Conduct. The June board meeting has previously been designated as a time when the board commits itself and its members to ethical and businesslike conduct. This includes proper use of authority and appropriate decorum when acting as board members. The record will show:

J. Fink as having no conflicts.

F. Farber as having no conflicts.

R. Halloran occasionally participates in training for the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan and the Michigan Judicial Institute who receive funding from the board. R. Halloran absents himself during these funding issues.

M. Hayes as having no conflicts.

E. Sosnick will be asked upon his arrival.

In the absence of C. Lucas and S. Mann Gray, letters will be sent requesting acknowledgement of apparent or potential conflicts while serving on the board.

There was no feedback from staff or guests present.

- V. **Monitoring Organizational and Executive Performance:** L. Hermen began this section by reminding the board that while reviewing Executive Director reports to the board to ask three questions at the beginning of each report:

1. Is the interpretation reasonable? (This is a balance between writing the policy to mean what was intended and its interpretation.)
2. Is there sufficient data that is compelling or a sufficient response that is compelling enough to convince you that the policy is in compliance?
3. Do we need to go further; is this policy good as it stands or does it trigger some needs to modify?

A. Policy Governance Model/Core Policies, Executive Limitations:

1. **Asset Protection:** J. Fink reviewed D. Cain's memo of June 7, 2000 suggesting language changes. Discussion ensued.
 - a. New wording was developed for item #1: "Failure to make maximum use of available funds."
 - b. Change the name from Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board (DVPTB) to the Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board (MDVPTB) as authorized in item #2.

MOTION: R. Halloran moved to change the policy statement under *Policy Governance Model/Core Policies, Executive Limitations, Asset Protection*, to read "Failure to make maximum use of available funds." Seconded by F. Farber. Motion carried.

2. **Financial Condition:** D. Cain reported on the June 7, 2000 memo stating that some of the transitional supportive housing (TSH) funds may be sent back in this fiscal year. The

expenditure discrepancy occurs because of the realities of the contract timeframes and on the regulations of what TANF will allow. TSH shelters have been advised of ways to use one-time allowable expenses by September 30, 2000.

There was a \$1.8 million STOP fund surplus that has accrued over the past four years. In anticipation of having to return carry-forward monies, the Finance Committee and staff worked on ways of expending the surplus.

D. Cain gave praise to P. Baker as she prepared the Financial Condition report. P. Baker does an incredible job of keeping track of budget information and was thanked for the degree of skill she provides.

New wording was suggested for item #1: "Expend more funds than have been legislatively appropriated during the fiscal year." Discussion ensued.

MOTION: R. Halloran moved to adopt the wording under *Policy Governance Model/Core Policies, Executive Limitations, Financial Condition*, to read "Expend more funds than have been legislatively appropriated during the fiscal year." Seconded by M. Hayes. Motion carried.

3. **Budgeting:** The June 7, 2000 memo on Budgeting was reviewed. A correction was made to page two. "MDVPTB enhancement requests for the following fiscal year will not be requested until September, therefore, this reporting item might be helpful if moved to an June reporting date."

The Rape Prevention Services (RPS) funds, which are the FIA designated responsibility of D. Cain and P. Baker, were presented to the board. Further discussion on RPS will take place during the retreat portion of the meeting.

Further review of this report resulted in the following language changes:

MOTION: Made by R. Halloran to change *Policy Governance Model/Core Policies, Budgeting, Item #2*, to read: "Plans the expenditure in any fiscal year of more funds than are conservatively projected to be available in that period." Seconded by F. Farber. Motion carried.

MOTION: Made by J. Fink to reword *Policy Governance Model/Core Policies, Budgeting, Item #4*, to read as follows: "May not fail to budget adequate support for board prerogatives, such as cost of board development and board and committee meetings." Seconded by F. Farber. Motion carried.

P. Baker was requested to schedule a Finance Committee meeting between now and the next scheduled board meeting in September.

- VI. **Public Comment:** M. Keefe thanked the board for their support of the MCADSV annual conference and the Women of Color Institute. A culmination of over 400 people attended the events.

J. Wright, on behalf of the Women of Color Institute, presented the board with a certificate showing their gratitude to the board for their generous support toward the institute.

K. Hagenian and Luke expressed thanks to the board for their well wishes on Luke's arrival.

- VII. **Process Evaluation:** R. Halloran expressed his delight in how well the Carver Model is working for the board. He has turned down several invitations to participate on other boards which do not use Carver. F. Farber and M. Hayes both appreciate the reports and being well informed. D. Cain expressed her thanks for being able to consult with L. Hermen, Centerboard Associates.

L. Hermen said the maturation process was live and well, and he feels the board is moving at a fast rate. The reports are the accountability test. As this is practiced, it will become more second nature. Part II of the Carver Model will be explored during the retreat portion of the meeting. Part II focuses on what do you do with the future? How is the future designed? How do we take all the information that comes from all sides and create the expectations of where the board wants to go?

The board feels "that the best is yet to come."

- VIII. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.